

NEWS RELEASE

**USDA Forest Service
Caribou-Targhee National Forest
1405 Hollipark Drive
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: November 15, 2005
05-45

Contact: **Lynn Ballard / Joanna Wilson**
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CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS FOR CARIBOU-TARGHEE NATIONAL FOREST GO ON SALE

For those of you who enjoy the tradition of cutting your own Christmas tree, the time has come to purchase Christmas tree permits from one of the Ranger Districts located within the Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Visitor Center in Idaho Falls and the St. Anthony Forest Service Supervisor Office. Each District will have instructions and maps available when you purchase your permit

DUBOIS RANGER DISTRICT - Dubois, Idaho 208-374-5422. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Christmas tree tags will be available the week of November 21st through December 23rd. The office will be open Saturdays and Sundays starting November 26th through the 17th of December. Hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ASHTON/ISLAND PARK RANGER DISTRICT - Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Christmas tree tags will be available November 21st. Island Park Ranger Station will be open on Saturday November 26th 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

TETON-BASIN RANGER DISTRICT - Driggs, Idaho 208-354-2312. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Christmas tree tags will be available November 14th. Open Saturdays starting November 19th 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and closed Christmas Eve.

MONTPELIER RANGER DISTRICT - Montpelier, Idaho 208-847-0375. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Sales began on Monday, November the 7th.

SODA SPRINGS RANGER DISTRICT - Soda Springs, Idaho. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Christmas tree tags will now be available. Open Saturdays November 19th, 26th and December 3rd. Open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WESTSIDE RANGER DISTRICT – Christmas tree cutting is not available on the National Forest lands administered by the Westside Ranger District (Malad and Pocatello). The BLM does sell permits and allows cutting on the BLM lands in the Malad area.

PALISADES RANGER DISTRICT - Idaho Falls, Idaho 208-524-1412. Hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday closed on Saturdays. Christmas tree tags are now available.

EASTERN IDAHO VISITOR CENTER –Idaho Falls, Idaho 208-523-3278 Monday – Friday 8am – 5pm, Saturday November 26, December 3, 10th & 17th 9am – 3pm while supplies last.

ST. ANTHONY OFFICE – St. Anthony, Idaho 208-624-3151 Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Christmas tree tags are available starting November 21st.

Other vendors who will be selling Christmas tree permits for the Caribou-Targhee National Forest:

Dave's Jubilee –Ashton, Idaho 208-652-7771. Open seven days a week.

Lenz Electronics –Ashton, Idaho 208-652-7420. Open Monday through Saturday.

Elk Creek Service Station – 2 miles north of Island Park Ranger Station Hwy. 20. 208-558-7571.

Rainey Creek Service Station – Swan Valley, Idaho 208-483-2151. Open Monday through Saturday 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Bob's True Value – Preston, Idaho 208-852-2627. Open Monday through Saturday. Sales began Friday, November the 4th. Cost is \$5.50.

Alpine Visitor Information Center – Alpine Civic Center in Alpine, Wyoming, 307-654-8800. Open Thursday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday & Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 9 a.m.-3 p.m. and Monday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., while supplies last.

Valley Wide Farm & Ranch Co-Op - Rexburg, Idaho, 208 356-5448. Open Monday through Thursday 6 a.m. – 10 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 6 a.m. – 11 p.m.

All permits are \$5.00 each (except at Bob's True Value) up to 12 feet, a limit of one tree per family. Harvesting is not allowed within campgrounds, developed sites or special use permit areas such as ski areas or scout camps or summer home areas. The Forest Service would like to encourage Christmas tree harvesting in areas where it would be beneficial to the remaining vegetation. Avoid riparian areas, which are sensitive and difficult to replant.

For more information contact one of the Ranger District Offices listed above.